

Jointly commissioned by Choral Spectrum and the Oberlin Choristers, Oberlin, Ohio,
for their anniversary seasons: Choral Spectrum (50th season), Choristers (25th season)
premiered on May 1, 2016, Ted Williams and Jennifer Call, Music Directors

Refuge

from "Sing Evermore!"

for SATB Chorus and Piano with opt. Flute* or Flute and String Quartet

Sara Teasdale (1884–1933), first published 1917

Gwyneth Walker

Additional words by Gwyneth Walker

Quickly ♩ = 120

lightly, as song in the air

Piano

with slight pedal

A **Moderate tempo** ♩ = 112

, *p* *gently, almost recited*

4 *rit.*

S From my spir - it's gray de - feat,
A From my spir - it's gray de - feat,
T From my spir - it's gray de - feat,
B From my spir - it's gray de - feat, —

A **Moderate tempo** ♩ = 112

as a bird, free in flight

rit.

Available separately: 8514A, Full Score and 8514B, Flute and String Parts

*The Flute part which goes with the full score (Catalog No. 8542A) is an optional addition to the Piano accompaniment.
When using Flute, let the pianist defer to the Flute *ad libitum*.

7

S from my pul - se's flag - ging beat, from my hopes that

A from my pul - se's flag - ging beat, from my hopes that

T from my pul - se's flag - ging beat, from my hopes that

B from my pul - se's flag - ging beat, from my hopes that

mp

mp

mp

mp

for rehearsal only

10

S turned to sand sift - ing through my close - clenched hand,

A turned to sand sift - ing through my close - clenched hand,

T turned to sand sift - ing through my close - clenched hand,

B turned to sand sift - ing through my close - clenched hand,

mp

mp

(reh.)

13 **B** *mf* , *p*

S from my own fault's slav - er - y, if I can sing,

A from my own fault's slav - er - y, if I can sing,

T from my own fault's slav - er - y, if I can sing,

B from my own fault's slav - er - y, I can

B *mf* *p*

Play

16 *mf*

S I still am free.

A I still am free.

T I still am free.

B sing... I still am

(mf)

Leo. Leo.

19 Slightly faster ♩ = 120, with motion

B

free.

Slightly faster ♩ = 120, with motion

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

C (♩ = 120)

22 (mf) cantabile

S
A

For with my sing - ing I can make a

C (♩ = 120)

Ped. Ped.

25 ref - uge for my spir - it's sake,

S
A

T
B

(mf) cantabile

a house of shin - ing

shimmering arpeggios

(mf)

28 *p sub.*

S
A

my frag - ile im - mor - tal - i - ty.

T
B

words, to be my frag - ile im - mor - tal - i - ty.

p

31 **D** *mf triumphantly*

S
A

If I can sing ... and

T
B

If I can sing ...

mf

34 *f*

S
A

when I sing, I sing, and I am free.

T
B

I sing, and I am free.

f

37 *with the mystery of singing p*

S A For

T B *with the mystery of singing p* For

for reh. only - -

p

Reo. Reo. Reo.

40 **E** Same tempo *cresc. poco a poco*

S A in my sing - ing I can hear the words of heal - ing,

T B in my sing - ing I can hear the words of heal - ing,

E Same tempo *(reh.)*

cresc. poco a poco

43 *(cresc.) mf (cresc.) f >*

S A soft and clear, the meld - ing of the parts to whole, the

T B soft and clear, the meld - ing of the parts to whole, the

(cresc.) mf (cresc.) f >

(reh.) Play *mf cresc.*

46 *poco rit.* *div.*

S
ver - y lan - guage of the soul. If

A
ver - y lan - guage of the soul. If

T
div.
ver - y lan - guage of the soul.

B
div.
ver - y lan - guage of the soul.

f *poco rit.*

F Slightly slower ♩ = 112

49

S
I can sing, if I can sing, if I can sing, if I can sing . . .

A
div.
I can sing, if I can sing, if I can sing . . .

T
I can sing, if I can sing, if I can sing, if I can sing . . .

B
unis. p

F Slightly slower ♩ = 112

p

ped.

53 *p*

S

A *p* *unis. (p)*
a house of shin - ing

T *mp*
a

B *mp*
house of shin - ing words, a

shimmering

Red.

55 *mp*

S
a house,

A *mp*
words, a house of shin - ing

T *mf*
house, a

B *mf*
house of shin - ing words, a

mp

Red. *simile*

57

S *mf* a house, *f* a

A words, *mf* a house of shin - ing *f*

T house of shin - ing words, *f* a

B house of shin - ing words, *f* a

59

S *div.* ref - uge for my spir - it, *unis.* a ref - uge for my *mf*

A ref - uge for my spir - it, a ref - uge for my *mf*

T ref - uge for my spir - it, ,

B ref - uge for my spir - it, ,

f *rit.*

Start slowly (♩ = 108)
and gradually accel. (to m. 69)

62

Soul.

soul.

If I can sing ...

If I can sing ... and

p

(p)

mp

mp

Start slowly (♩ = 108)
and gradually accel. (to m. 69)

p cresc. poco a poco (to m. 69)

with pedal

65 (accel.)

S and when I sing ... I

A and when I sing ... I

T when I sing ... and then I sing, I

B when I sing ... and then I sing, I

mp

mp

(accel.)

Faster ♩ = 120
with energy and celebration

(*accel.*)

68

S
A

sing, and I am free, free,

T
B

sing, and I am free, free,

(*accel.*)

Faster ♩ = 120
with energy and celebration

70

S
A

free, free, free, free!

T
B

free, free, free, free!

8va

Reo. _____ 2:15

Available editions

- Merlin's Song, 9212
- In Praise of Music and Poetry, 9213
- The Lost Chord, 9214
- Refuge, 8514**
- The Caged Bird Sings, 9215

- The Gift to Sing, 8518
- I Hear America Singing, 9216
- Sky-Born Music, 9217
- Everyone Sang, 9218

